

Claims:

1. A method of uniquely identifying a digital storage medium, comprising:
determining at least one physical attribute of a recording surface; and
forming identification indicia in response to the at least one physical attribute.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining at least one physical attribute comprises:
associating at least one position on the recording surface with at least one data unit stored on the digital storage medium.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of associating comprises:
selecting a plurality of data units by number; and
determining a position on the recording surface of each of the plurality of data units.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the position of each of the plurality of data units includes an angular location relative to an angular location of another data unit stored on the digital storage medium, and a radial location relative to a center of the digital storage medium.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the identification indicia corresponds to the position of each of the plurality of data units.
6. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of associating comprises:
selecting at least one position by an angular location; and
determining a number for each of a plurality of data units located along the at least one position.
7. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of associated comprises:
selecting at least one position by an angular location and a radial location;
determining a number for a data unit located at the at least one position.
8. The method of claim 2, wherein the at least one data unit includes a symbol associated with modulated data.

9. The method of claim 2, wherein the digital storage medium is a digital versatile disc.
10. The method of claim 2, wherein the digital storage medium is a master digital recording source.
11. The method of claim 1, further comprising at least one of:
 - storing the identification indicia in a database; and
 - labeling the digital storage medium with the identification indicia.
12. A method of associating a digital recording source with a digital storage medium, comprising:
 - obtaining identification indicia associated with the digital recording source;
 - determining at least one physical attribute of a recording surface in response to the identification indicia; and
 - comparing the identification indicia with the at least one physical attribute.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein the step of determining at least one physical attribute comprises:
 - associating at least one position on the recording surface with at least one data unit stored on the digital storage medium.
14. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of associating comprises:
 - selecting a plurality of data units by number; and
 - determining a position on the recording surface of each of the plurality of data units.
15. The method of claim 14, wherein the identification indicia corresponds to the position of each of the plurality of data units.
16. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of associating comprises:
 - selecting at least one position by an angular location; and
 - determining a number for each of a plurality of data units located along the at least one position.

17. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of associated comprises:
 - selecting at least one position by an angular location and a radial location;
 - determining a number for a data unit located at the at least one position.
18. The method of claim 13, wherein the at least one data unit includes a symbol associated with modulated data.
19. The method of claim 12, wherein the step of obtaining comprises at least one of:
 - retrieving the identification indicia from a database; and
 - retrieving the identification indicia from a label on the digital recording medium.
20. The method of claim 12, wherein the digital storage medium is a digital versatile disc.
21. The method of claim 20, wherein the digital recording source is a master and the digital versatile disc is a replica of the master.
22. An apparatus for uniquely identifying a digital storage medium, comprising:
 - a reader for determining at least one physical attribute of a recording surface;
 - and
 - a means for forming identification indicia from the at least one physical attribute.
23. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the at least one physical attribute is an associate between at least one position on the recording surface and at least one symbol stored on the digital storage medium.
24. The apparatus of claim 22, further comprising:
 - a database for storing the identification indicia for a plurality of the digital storage medium.
25. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the digital storage medium is a digital versatile disc.
26. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the digital versatile disc is a master.

27. An apparatus for associating a digital recording source with a digital storage medium, comprising:

 a reader for analyzing the digital storage medium to determine at least one physical attribute of a recording surface; and

 a means for obtaining identification indicia associated with the digital recording source and comparing the identification indicia with the at least one physical attribute.

28. The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the at least one physical attribute comprises an association between at least one position on the recording surface and at least one data unit stored on the digital storage medium.

29. The apparatus of claim 27, further comprising:

 a database for storing the identification indicia for a plurality of the digital storage medium.

30. The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the digital storage medium is a digital versatile disc.

31. The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the digital recording source is a master and the digital versatile disc is a replica of the master.

32. An apparatus for identifying a master used to manufacture a digital storage medium, comprising:

 a digital storage medium reader for reading identification indicia from the digital storage medium;

 a means for comparing the identification indicia to a database of identification indicia of masters; and

 a display for displaying a result of the comparison.

33. The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the identification indicia comprises at least one physical attribute of a recording surface.

34. The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the at least one physical attribute comprises an association between at least one position on the recording surface and at least one data unit stored on the digital storage medium.

35. A method of identifying a master used to manufacture a digital storage medium, comprising:

- reading identification indicia from the digital storage medium;
- comparing the identification indicia to a database of identification indicia of masters; and
- displaying a result of the comparison.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein the step of reading identification indicia comprises:

- determining at least one physical attribute of a recording surface.

37. The method of claim 36, wherein the step of determining at least one physical attribute comprises:

- associating at least one position on the recording surface with at least one data unit stored on the digital storage medium.